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S 369 [263] Only food seems to have undergone only slight improvement: the couscous of millet or rice (a little fish or meat during periods of abundance) are basic in their diet. Bread, rarely eaten during the meal, is reserved for children; S [271] it takes the place of cake. Water remains the essential drink of the Moslem; water, palm wine (during the harvest), [273] and grape wine (on feast days) are consumed by the non-SR [273] Islamized None.

The frugal housewife profits from the proximity of the S 369 241 438 escale for /380/ the daily sale in the market of the products of her personal garden. She cultivates tomatoes, beans, pumpkins, and okra. At Keur-Issa-Bambara she has tried, with greater or lesser success, to cultivate potatoes and salad greens; the gathering of mangoes also procures a little profit for her. When the harvest from the garden is exhausted, the S [372] collection of dead wood which she will take to sell in the market in the form of little bundles will yield a few coins for her.

In parallel fashion, the husband-cultivator harvests on a plot of his lougan products that are easy to sell on the Thiès market; at Keur-Issa-Bambara he lays out flooded rice-fields and cultivates the sweet potato and manioc, part of which is S SR 369 438 offered to the clientele of the escale.

During the dry season the None principally works at gathering palmyra leaves; they will be sold, as bundles of [314] thatch, for making roofs for the huts of the urban quarters; [342] after the harvest he carries dried groundnut leaves to the city [231] for fodder for the little horses harnessed to the taxicabs.

Despite the ready sale that can be made with cattle, S SR 369 234 438 they are not very numerous. When the epizootic diseases have spared them, they give an appreciable profit to their owner through the sale of milk. At Tiali, the only herd in the village, which contains about 30 animals, belongs to a S SR F single breeder. It is guarded by Peul shepherds who lead it [239] to graze in the neighboring woodlands. The morning milk [465] and the calves belong to the owner; the evening milk goes

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/380 cont./ to the shepherd as compensation for services rendered. Although lactation is very poor (one to two liters per day per head), this sale practiced in the city at a relatively high price (30 francs per liter) is a source of not inconsiderable profit.

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The Sérère, despite the poor food resources he commands, practices for the benefit of Europeans the raising of pigs in the narrow and miry enclosures formed by stakes driven deeply into the ground and close together.

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The mode of settlement and the economy of these suburban villages, although they have not had profound modifications, nevertheless are in the process of continual reorganization and adaptation.

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These very modest contributions of the urban economy thin out very rapidly as one goes farther from the city. Karamoko and Keur-Mamour, located six and seven kilometers from the escale, and even Diakhaté, which is nearer, give the appearance of wholly rural villages. The women who each morning leave in Indian file /381/ to sell their products in the city make up the single element that enters into the circuit of the new economy offered to them.

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Has the social and economic organization, on the other hand, been more profoundly modified? An examination of the ethnic and functional composition of the groups of the villages will permit an understanding of the data on this problem.

For this study we have grouped the villages under three rubrics:

1. The assemblage of Tiali, Thiès-None, and Sapko; near the escale, but having undergone perturbations in their economy by the loss of part of their land.

2. Keur-Mamour and Karamoko form the group farthest from the city.

3. Diakhaté and Keur-Issa-Bambara are the two villages near the escale which have not suffered any loss of territory.

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The first assemblage musters a total population of 405

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433 Truck gardening. Truck gardens exist in the major
244 centers. This is still, however, a European crop, the native
242 consuming very little of our vegetables.

An experimental garden, or rather a nursery, was set up in Kaolack about 20 years ago. This nursery provided many tree plants for the Europeans and natives (eucalyptus, mimosa, flamboyants, Gambia, mahogany, silk-cotton trees, orange trees, lemon trees, and guava trees).

[648] /121/ European crops. Concessions. No agricultural colonization has been undertaken by Europeans, except at Latmingué.

In 1920, the Compagnie Française de l'Afrique Occidentale requested a concession of 200 hectares at Latmingué, 20 kilometers southeast of Kaolack, very near the Saloum, in order to conduct experiments on the mechanical cultivation of groundnuts. Improvements were made for four years. Improved agricultural equipment was used (tractors, gang plows, mechanical seeders, pulverizers, harrow-plows, and pickers). The tests made it possible to get an idea of the advantages of mechanical cultivation of the groundnut. The shortage of manpower, however, was an obstacle to extending the cultivation. The Compagnie Française abandoned this concession, which was recovered and expanded by the Société des Plantations of Latmingué, which now exploits it. The latter cultivates manioc exclusively. It has already cleared 200 hectares and planted 270 hectares in manioc. It is trying to cultivate this plant annually in nine months instead of 18. This development should be watched with interest. The needs of the mother country for manioc are considerable, and Senegal would find there another source of economic prosperity.

233 Animal husbandry. Pasturage is abundant, especially during the rainy season. It is sufficient to raise large herds of cattle, sheep, horses, and donkeys. Epidemics, however, decimate the cattle, which vary between 250,000 and 300,000 heads. During the dry season, the problem of animal fodder is doubled by the difficulty of finding water for the

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233 animals to drink. Nevertheless, cattle-raising remains a worthwhile enterprise, a herd doubling in three years.

[232] [654] [492] No serious attempt to improve the breed of cattle has been made by the administration.

Since the multiplication of automobiles, the horse has been somewhat forsaken. The breed is small, but sturdy.

/122/ As for sheep and goats, their rustic breed is resistant. This breeding does not require any care.

313 Forests. Forests cover a notable part of the circle. They must be protected because they are on the way to progressive disappearance as a result of the abuses of brush fires and systematic clearing by the native, wishing to increase his crops.

There is no methodical exploitation of the forests. The exploitation is confined to the cutting of palm trees for the production of charcoal. There still exist, however, some beautiful stands of hardwoods, especially of Gambia mahogany, or false mahogany, particularly in Bas-Saloum.

To the east, between Kaffrine and Koungheul, stocks of small bamboos exist, especially in the humid depressions. [342] These bamboos are cut by the natives who make panels out of them, called "crintings," to serve as closings or veranda partitions. [435] The price of these panels, from two to three meters long, varies between 15 and 25 francs.

316 Quarries. There are many laterite quarries, exploited for the most part. The stone is not as hard as at Rufisque or at Dakar.

317 433 Salt marshes. There is industrial exploitation of the salt marshes at Kaolack. The Société des Salines of Sine-Saloum has exploited the salt marshes at Diorana since 1915. The region of the Saloum is very fortunate from this viewpoint. The constant evaporation of the water of this arm of the sea and its many branches gives the liquid mass a degree of saturation much higher than that of the ocean water.